used to say, that every other man you met there was a Cowles. Are there any Woodruffs there still. Perhaps there is some other old graveyard. Oh, dont write on the face of your postals. The law forbids their being sent if that is done, but your missives seem to come safely, no matter what you do.

Have had good luck in getting mss. for Aug. Hort. and it is made up, and C. will be here to attend to Sept. no, so I feel quite free. It seems incredible that you have been gone but about two months. I should say it was nearer two years. I sent my photo as requested. Papa wants you should explain to people what that "hdk." on top of my head is. Rhod says Clara Bartlett is very anxious to have one of your photos taken standing that was there is only one left & I shall let it be till you come home. I sent me some other names but I dont know the adders es of many of them. I will put in

July 11. 1879.

This morning we rec. from Love & Nov. Hower your long letter from N. H. I am glad you had so much of what you wished to see, and that you found friends. Mrs. Blake says that Mr. B's family are the greatest folks she ever had to make every body have a good time. Mrs B. and Papa have both been in an anxious state of mind so anxious to see your N. H. letter. Papa is I think satisfied but Mrs Blake does not come up till tomorrow. Then we will read to him what will interest him.

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As to being hospitable to them I dont exactly see the opening for that when they are paying board. It always seemed to me that the truest hospitality to boarders, was to let them see and feel that they were as free and as much at liberty to do what they pleased as if they were in their own home. That I try to do, and it is about all I can do. It is four weeks tonight since they came up, they have not said when they propose to return. I do not think I could stand it straight ahead with so large a family without more efficient help, but I am getting on well so far, get pretty tired of course, but sleep very well. Charlie writes that he will be home in ~~a~~ about two weeks. I suppose he will then take a turn round to the Fairs and report. Fruit is getting to be quite plenty apricots, peaches, apples, early plums and pears gone, wish I could send you and Auntie and all some. You have been on the go so much that I should think it would be very nice to settle down quiet, in quiet of Farmington. I should think Auntie would find it very restful and soothing. Hope you will enjoy Maria Gay's society, and from what Lou says of her should think you might. I always knew the Cowles swarmed in F. Mother